Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph [0001]:

[0001] This is a Continuation Application of Application No. 10/300,031, filed November 20, 2002, which is in turn a continuation of Application No. 10/153,818, filed May 24, 2002, which is in turn a continuation of Application No. 09/530,601, filed January 11, 2001 and is based on PCT/US99/06870, filed March 30, 1999, which claims priority on U.S. Application No. 09/050,662, filed March 30, 1998.

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph [0018]:

[0018] In certain embodiments of the present invention, the paclitaxel, docetaxel, or other taxoid may be conjugated to a water soluble polymer, and preferably the polymer is conjugated to the 2' or the 7- hydroxyl or both of the paclitaxel, docetaxel, or other taxoid. Poly-glutamic acid (PG) is one polymer that offers several advantages in the present invention. First, it contains a large number of side chain carboxyl functional groups for drug attachment. Second, PG can be readily degraded by lysosomal enzymes to its nontoxic basic component, l-glutamic acid, d-glutamic acid and dl-glutamic acid. Finally, sodium glutamate has been reported to prevent manifestations of neuropathy induced by paclitaxel, thus enabling higher doses of paclitaxel to be tolerated (Boyle et al., 1996). Preferred polymers include, but are not limited to poly(l-glutamic acid), poly(d-glutamic acid), poly(dl-glutamic acid), poly(l-aspartic acid), poly(d-aspartic acid), poly(dl-aspartic acid), poly(l-lysine), poly(d-lysine), poly(dl-lysine), copolymers of the above listed polyamino acids with polyethylene glycol, polycaprolactone, polyglycolic acid and polylactic acid, as well as poly(2-hydroxyethyl l-glutamine), chitosan, carboxymethyl dextran, hyaluronic acid, human serum albumin and alginic acid, with poly-glutamic acids being particularly preferred. At the lower end of molecular weight, the polymers of the present invention preferably have a molecular weight of about 1,000, about 2,000, about 3,000, about 4,000, about 5,000, about 6,000, about 7,000, about 8,000, about 9,000, about 10,000, about 11,000, about 12,000, about 13,000, about 14,000, about 15,000, about 16,000, about 17,000, about 18,000, about 19,000, about

20,000, about 21,000, about 22,000, about 23,000, about 24,000, about 25,000, about 26,000, about 27,000, about 28,000, about 29,000, about 30,000, about 31,000, about 32,000, about 33,000, about 34,000, about 35,000, about 36,000, about 37,000, about 38,000, about 39,000, about 40,000, about 41,000, about 42,000, about 43,000, about 44,000, about 45,000, about 46,000, about 47,000, about 48,000, about 49,000, to about 50,000 D. At the higher end of molecular weight, the polymers of the present invention preferably have a molecular weight of about 51,000, about 52,000, about 53,000, about 54,000, about 55,000, about 56,000, about 57,000, about 58,000, about 59,000, about 60,000, about 61,000, about 62,000, about 63,000, about 64,000, about 65,000, about 66,000, about 67,000, about 68,000, about 69,000, about 70,000, about 71,000, about 72,000, about 73,000, about 74,000, about 75,000, about 76,000, about 77,000, about 78,000, about 79,000, about 80,000, about 81,000, about 82,000, about 83,000, about 84,000, about 85,000, about 86,000, about 87,000, about 88,000, about 89,000, about 90,000, about 91,000, about 92,000, about 93,000, about 94,000, about 95,000, about 96,000, about 97,000, about 98,000, about 99,000, to about 100,000 D. Within these ranges, the ranges of molecular weights for the polymers are preferably of about 5,000 to about 100,000 D, with about 20,000 to about 80,000 being preferred, or even about 25,000 to about 50,000 being more preferred.